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From-Congresswoman Kay Granger

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FAX: (817) 335-5852Date: 8-21-02 Time: 2:30 PMTo: Chairman Michael PowellFrom: Robert Head, Legislative AssistantFAX Number: 202-418-2801 Pages: 3 (Including the Cover Sheet)

Comments:

Support letter for RadioShack Corporation's waiver request.

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Congress of the United States**Washington, DC 20515****August 21, 2002**

Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Chairman Powell:

We are writing regarding an urgent matter pending before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that is of extreme importance to one of our Texas constituents, RadioShack Corporation.

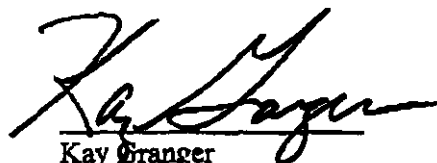
We understand that the FCC recently issued an Order requiring that radar detectors now comply with Part 15 emissions levels so as to reduce the likelihood of interference with very small aperture satellite terminals (VSATs). While we have no objection to the emission limits imposed on radar detectors, the timeframe by which the FCC expects compliance with the rule has the potential to result in substantial economic losses for RadioShack. The timeframe established - i.e., a 30-day manufacturing deadline and 60-day marketing deadline - is unprecedented and does not reflect a reasonable estimation of how the products in question are currently distributed by RadioShack. RadioShack's orders, for the most part, are filled, shipped, and distributed in four to six month cycles, making it impossible to sell, remove or stop the distribution of current inventory, and to restock with compliant units in the established timeframe. RadioShack, therefore, has filed a request for waiver from the new rule that would provide an additional six months (until March 30, 2003) before it would be required to shelve the new products.

If the FCC does not grant RadioShack its waiver request, the company will face significant economic and logistical burdens. Indeed, there are no options by which RadioShack can mitigate severe and disproportionate losses. RadioShack currently has an inventory of more than one hundred thousand radar detectors in its distribution pipeline, that were all ordered and manufactured prior to the Order's publication. RadioShack estimates these losses to be several million dollars for the lost inventory and many millions more in lost sales (during the busy Christmas retail season), since replacement products will not be available until 2003. In addition to these losses for removal of the products, are the lost marketing costs already incurred for advertising the current inventory and lost sales commissions for RadioShack's 25,000 store employees. RadioShack is also concerned about the potential loss of customer good-will that the Company has maintained for over 80 years.

We additionally urge the FCC to grant RadioShack's waiver request because evidence indicates that RadioShack's products will not cause additional significant harm in the marketplace. Independent testing of its current lines of radar detectors indicates that emissions from RadioShack's products are lower than all but one of the competitor products the FCC tested. Therefore, while RadioShack's current products may not be in compliance with the FCC's new limits, they are not as harmful in their emissions as many of the other products that the Commission considered during its proceedings.

Given the severe potential for economic loss presented by each day that passes, we strongly urge the FCC to expedite its decision to grant RadioShack's request for waiver. We appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Kay Granger
Member of Congress



Martin Frost
Member of Congress



Joe Barton
Member of Congress